The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and Bruce E. Tarr

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act providing regulatory reform to promote job growth.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bradley H. Jones, Jr. | 20th Middlesex |
| Bruce E. Tarr | First Essex and Middlesex |
| George N. Peterson, Jr. | 9th Worcester |
| Bradford Hill | 4th Essex |
| Elizabeth A. Poirier | 14th Bristol |
| Viriato Manuel deMacedo | 1st Plymouth |
| Angelo L. D'Emilia | 8th Plymouth |
| F. Jay Barrows | 1st Bristol |
| Richard Bastien | 2nd Worcester |
| Nicholas A. Boldyga | 3rd Hampden |
| Geoff Diehl | 7th Plymouth |
| Peter J. Durant | 6th Worcester |
| Donald F. Humason, Jr. | 4th Hampden |
| Keiko M. Orrall | 12th Bristol |
| John H. Rogers | 12th Norfolk |
| Donald H. Wong | 9th Essex |
| Matthew A. Beaton | 11th Worcester |

| Kimberly N. Ferguson | 1st Worcester |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| George T. Ross | 2nd Bristol |
| Paul Adams | 17th Essex |
| Ryan C.Fattman | 18th Worcester |
| Paul K. Frost | 7th Worcester |
| Susan Williams Gifford | 2nd Plymouth |
| Marc T. Lombardo | 22nd Middlesex |
| Sheila C. Harrington | 1st Middlesex |
| Steven S. Howitt | 4th Bristol |
| Randy Hunt | 5th Barnstable |
| Daniel K. Webster | 6th Plymouth |
| Kevin J. Kuros | 8th Worcester |
| Steven L. Levy | 4th Middlesex |
| James J. Lyons, Jr. | 18th Essex |
| Shaunna O'Connell | 3rd Bristol |
| Todd M. Smola | 1st Hampden |
| Daniel B. Winslow | 9th Norfolk |
| Robert L. Hedlund | Plymouth and Norfolk |
| Michael R. Knapik | Second Hampden and Hampshire |
| Michael J. Rodrigues | First Bristol and Plymouth |
| Richard J. Ross | Norfolk, Bristol, and Middlesex |
| David T. Vieira | 3rd Barnstable |

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Twelve

An Act providing regulatory reform to promote job growth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 3 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is hereby
- 2 amended by inserting at the end thereof the following sections: -
- 3 Section 70. The following words and phrases, as used in this section and section 71, shall have
- 4 the following meanings unless a different meaning is required by the context:
- 5 "Agency", any department, board, commission, division or authority of the state government or
- 6 subdivision of any of the foregoing, or official of the state government, authorized by law to
- 7 make regulations or to conduct adjudicatory proceedings, but shall not include the following: the
- 8 legislative and judicial departments; the governor and council; military or naval boards,
- 9 commissions or officials; the department of correction; the department of youth services; the
- parole board; the division of dispute resolution of the division of industrial accidents; the
- personnel administrator; the civil service commission; and the appellate tax board.
- "Committee", the joint committee on state administration and regulatory oversight of the general
- court.

- 14 (a) An agency shall file a copy of an adopted rule with the committee at the same time it is filed
- with the secretary of state.
- 16 (b) The committee may examine rules in effect and newly adopted rules to determine whether:
- 17 (1) the rule is a valid exercise of delegated legislative authority;
- 18 (2) the statutory authority for the rule has expired or been repealed;
- 19 (3) the rule is necessary to accomplish the apparent or expressed intent of the specific statute
- 20 that the rule implements;
- 21 (4) the rule is a reasonable implementation of the law as it applies to any affected class of
- persons; and
- 23 (5) the agency complied with the regulatory analysis requirements of section 5A of chapter
- 24 30 and the analysis properly reflects of the of the rule.
- 25 (c) The committee may request information from an agency necessary to exercise its powers
- under subsection (b). The committee shall consult with joint committees of the general court
- with jurisdiction over the subjects of the rule or regulation under review.
- 28 Section 71. (a) Not later than 30 days after receiving a copy of an adopted rule from an agency
- 29 under section 70, the committee may: (1) approve the adopted rule or regulation; (2) disapprove
- 30 the rule or regulation and propose an amendment to the adopted rule or regulation; or (3)
- 31 disapprove the adopted rule or regulation.
- 32 (b) If the committee approves an adopted rule or regulation or does not disapprove and propose
- an amendment under subsection (a)(2) or disapprove under subsection (a)(3), the adopted rule
- shall become effective on the date specified.
- 35 (c) If the committee proposes an amendment to the adopted rule or regulation under subsection
- 36 (a)(2), the agency may make the amendment and resubmit the rule or regulation, as amended, to

- 37 the committee. The amended rule or regulation must be one that the agency could have adopted 38 on the basis of the record in the rule or regulation making proceeding and the legal authority 39 granted to the agency. The agency shall provide an explanation for the amended rule or 40 regulation as provided in section 5A. An agency is not required to hold a hearing on an 41 amendment made under this subsection. If the agency makes the amendment, it shall also give 42 notice to the secretary of state for publication of the rule or regulation, as amended, in the 43 Massachusetts Register. The notice must include the text of the rule or regulation as amended. If 44 the committee does not disapprove the rule or regulation, as amended, or propose a further
- 46 (d) If the committee disapproves the adoption of a rule under subsection (a)(3), the adopted rule 47 becomes effective on adjournment of the next regular session of the General Court unless before
- 48 the adjournment the General Court enacts legislation sustaining the action of the committee.

amendment, the rule or regulation shall become effective on the date specified.

- 49 (e) An agency may withdraw the adoption of a rule by giving notice of the withdrawal to the 50 committee and to the secretary of state. A withdrawal under this subsection terminates the
- 51 rulemaking proceeding with respect to the adoption, but does not prevent the agency from
- 52 initiating a new rulemaking proceeding for the same or substantially similar adoption.
- 53 SECTION 2. Section 2 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official
- Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in line 5, after the word "right" the following:-
- 55 ; or, (d) the regulation has an economic impact on small businesses and an estimate of its fiscal
- effect will be filed with state secretary pursuant to section 5
- 57 SECTION 3. Said section 2 of said chapter 30A is hereby amended by inserting, in line 29, after
- 58 the word "consideration" the following:-

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and the full text of said small business impact statement

- 60 SECTION 4. Section 3 of said chapter 30A is hereby amended by inserting, in line 27, after the
- words "include the" the following:-
- statement of small business consideration and the full text of said
- 63 SECTION 5. Said chapter 30A is hereby amended by striking section 5A, in its entirety, and
- 64 inserting in place thereof the following sections:-
- 65 Section 5A. (a) In addition to a small business impact statement, an agency shall prepare a
- subsequent regulatory analysis for a proposed rule or regulation if, within 60 days after the
- published notice of the proposed rule or regulation adoption, a written request for the analysis is
- 68 filed in the office of the secretary of state by the governor, the executive office of administration
- and finance, the joint committee on state administration and regulatory oversight, or 300
- 70 interested persons signing the request. The secretary of state shall immediately forward to the
- agency a certified copy of the filed request.
- 72 (b) Except to the extent that the written request expressly waives one or more of the following,
- 73 the regulatory analysis must contain:
- 74 (1) an analysis of the benefits and costs of a reasonable range of regulatory alternatives
- reflecting the scope of discretion provided by statute authorizing the rule or regulation;
- 76 and
- 77 (2) a determination whether the benefits of the proposed rule or regulation justify the
- costs of the proposed rule or regulation and the proposed rule or regulation will achieve
- 79 the objectives of the authorizing statute in a more cost effective manner, or with greater
- net benefits, than other regulatory alternatives.
- 81 (c) An agency preparing a regulatory analysis under this section shall prepare a concise summary
- of the analysis.

- 83 (d) An agency preparing a regulatory analysis under this section shall submit the analysis to the
- 84 governor, the executive office of administration and finance, the joint committee on state
- administration and regulatory oversight, or, if applicable, to the interested persons signing the
- 86 request under subsection (a).
- 87 Section 5B. (a) Each agency shall review its rules and regulations at least once every 6 years
- after their publication as the final rules or regulations to ensure that those rules and regulations
- 89 minimize economic impact on small businesses in a manner consistent with the stated objectives
- 90 of applicable statutes.
- 91 (b) In reviewing a rule or regulation to minimize economic impact of the rule or regulation on
- 92 small businesses, the agency shall file a regulatory review report which considers the following
- 93 factors:
- 94 (1) the continuing need for the rule or regulation and the effectiveness of the rule or regulation in
- achieving its objectives, including a summary of any available data supporting the conclusions
- 96 reached;
- 97 (2) the nature of complaints or comments received concerning the rule or regulation from the
- 98 public during the previous 6 years, including any petitions for waiver of the rule tendered to the
- 99 agency or granted by it;
- 100 (3) alternative solutions to the complaints or comments and the reasons they were rejected or the
- 101 changes made in the rule or regulation in response to those complaints or comments and the
- reasons for the changes
- 103 (4) the complexity of the rule or regulation;
- 104 (5) the extent to which the rule or regulation overlaps, duplicates or conflicts with other federal,
- state and local governmental rules and regulations;

- (6) the length of time since the rule or regulation has been enacted, changed, amended ormodified; and
- 108 (7) the degree to which technology, economic conditions or other factors have changed in the subject areas affected by the rule or regulation.
- 110 (c) A copy of the report shall be filed with the joint committee on state administration and 111 regulatory oversight and shall be available for public inspection.
- SECTION 6. Section 2 of chapter 43D of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official
- Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "selectmen.", in line 5, the following
- 114 words:-
- "Housing Priority Zone", a privately or publicly owned property, a zoning district or a zoning
- overlay district zoned and designated for the development or redevelopment of housing which:
- 1. Exceeds the allowable unit density by a minimum of 50 percent greater than the

 density allowed prior to designation as a priority zone, and shall in no case have a lot size

 greater than ½ acre;
- 120 2. Includes a minimum of 40% of its units as affordable housing, as defined in Section 2
 121 of Chapter 40R;
- May incorporate the use of zoning methods known as cluster development, as defined in Section 9 of Chapter 40A of the General Laws, or open space residential design; and
- 4. Is designated a priority development site by the board, in consultation with the
 Department of Housing and Community Development.
- SECTION 7. Chapter 43D, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting after section 127 16 the following sections:-

128 Section 17. For the purposes of determining consistency with the definition of "consistent with 129 local needs" contained in Section 20 of Chapter 40b of the General Laws, a housing unit 130 developed in a housing priority zone shall be credited at the rate of 1.75 units upon the issuance 131 of a building permit. 132 Section 18. Any individual or family residing in affordable housing within a housing priority 133 zone shall report to the local administrative office responsible for housing development and 134 administration not less than once every three years to certify that the property has not been sold 135 or otherwise transferred to an individual or family who exceeds the income limits of the 136 affordable housing program. If said property is sold or otherwise transferred to an individual or 137 family who do not exceed the income limits, then the reporting responsibility shall devolve to the 138 new owner or owners of the property. 139 Section 19. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the real estate tax 140 assessed to a property designated as a priority development site shall be on a pro rata basis to the 141 days remaining in the fiscal year from the date of the issue of the temporary or permanent 142 occupancy permit to the end of the fiscal year. 143 SECTION 8. Chapter 131A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is 144 hereby amended by inserting, after the word "thirty-one.", in line 13, the following words:-145 "Division", the division of fisheries and wildlife within the department of fisheries, wildlife, and 146 environmental law enforcement. 147 SECTION 9. Chapter 131A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by 148 inserting, after section 7, the following new sections:-149 (8) The division shall not promulgate any regulation pursuant to this chapter which may result in 150 the taking or restriction of land, including restrictions resulting from the issuance of a permit,

151 unless such regulation is in accordance with the processes set out in sections 4 and 5 of this 152 chapter and such land is deemed a significant habitat as defined in section 1 of this chapter. 153 (9) The division shall rescind or revise any and all regulations, including, but not limited to 321 154 CMR 10.11-10.26 et seq., which may involve the taking or restriction of land, including 155 restrictions resulting from the issuance of a permit, unless such regulation is in accordance with 156 the processes set out in sections 4 and 5 of this chapter and such land is deemed a significant 157 habitat as defined in section 1 of this chapter. 158 SECTION 10. Section 27 of chapter 149 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official 159 Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph and inserting in place thereof the 160 following paragraph: 161 Any employee claiming to be aggrieved by a violation of this section may, at the expiration of 90 162 days after the filing of a complaint with the attorney general, or sooner if the attorney general 163 assents in writing, and within 3 years after the said violation, institute and prosecute in his own 164 name and on his own behalf, or for himself and for others similarly situated, a civil action for 165 injunctive relief, for any damages incurred, and for any loss of wages and other benefits. Any 166 employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action shall if said violation be willful, be 167 awarded triple damages, as liquidated damages, for any loss of wages and other benefits; and the 168 employee shall also be awarded the costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees; 169 provided, further, that any employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action if said 170 violation is not willful, shall be awarded damages as determined by the court for any loss of 171 wages and other benefits; and the employee may also be awarded the costs of the litigation and 172 reasonable attorneys' fees.

SECTION 11. Section 27F of said chapter 149, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: Any employee claiming to be aggrieved by a violation of this section may, at the expiration of 90 days after the filing of a complaint with the attorney general, or sooner if the attorney general assents in writing, and within 3 years after the said violation, institute and prosecute in his own name and on his own behalf, or for himself and for others similarly situated, a civil action for injunctive relief, for any damages incurred, and for any loss of wages and other benefits. Any employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action shall if said violation be willful, be awarded triple damages, as liquidated damages, for any loss of wages and other benefits; and the employee shall also be awarded the costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees; provided, further, that any employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action if said violation is not willful, shall be awarded damages as determined by the court for any loss of wages and other benefits; and the employee may also be awarded the costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees. SECTION 12. Section 27G of said chapter 149, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: Any employee claiming to be aggrieved by a violation of this section may, at the expiration of 90 days after the filing of a complaint with the attorney general, or sooner if the attorney general assents in writing, and within 3 years after the said violation, institute and prosecute in his own name and on his own behalf, or for himself and for others similarly situated, a civil action for injunctive relief, for any damages incurred, and for any loss of wages and other benefits. Any employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action shall if said violation be willful, be awarded triple damages, as liquidated damages, for any loss of wages and other benefits; and the

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employee shall also be awarded the costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees; provided, further, that any employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action if said violation is not willful, shall be awarded damages as determined by the court for any loss of wages and other benefits; and the employee may also be awarded the costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees. SECTION 13. Section 27H of said chapter 149, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: Any employee claiming to be aggrieved by a violation of this section may, at the expiration of 90 days after the filing of a complaint with the attorney general, or sooner if the attorney general assents in writing, and within 3 years after the said violation, institute and prosecute in his own name and on his own behalf, or for himself and for others similarly situated, a civil action for injunctive relief, for any damages incurred, and for any loss of wages and other benefits. Any employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action shall if said violation be willful, be awarded triple damages, as liquidated damages, for any loss of wages and other benefits; and the employee shall also be awarded the costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees; provided, further, that any employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action if said violation is not willful, shall be awarded damages as determined by the court for any loss of wages and other benefits; and the employee may also be awarded the costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees. SECTION 14. Section 148B of chapter 149 of the General Laws, as appearing the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking, in line 8, the word "and" and inserting in place thereof

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the word:- or.

SECTION 15. Section 150 of said chapter 149, as so appearing is hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: Any employee claiming to be aggrieved by a violation of sections 33E, 148, 148A, 148B, 150C, 152, 152A or 159C or section 19 of chapter 151 may, at the expiration of 90 days after the filing of a complaint with the attorney general, or sooner if the attorney general assents in writing, and within 3 years after the said violation, institute and prosecute in his own name and on his own behalf, or for himself and for others similarly situated, a civil action for injunctive relief, for any damages incurred, and for any loss of wages and other benefits. Any employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action shall if said violation be willful, be awarded triple damages, as liquidated damages, for any loss of wages and other benefits; and the employee shall also be awarded the costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees; provided, further, that any employee so aggrieved and who prevails in such an action if said violation is not willful, shall be awarded damages as determined by the court for any loss of wages and other benefits; and the employee may also be awarded the costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees. SECTION 16. Subsection (i) of section 14 of chapter 151A, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out paragraph (1) and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: With respect to calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, the experience rate of an employer qualifying therefore under subsection (b) shall be the rate which appears in the column headed by the unemployment compensation reserve percentage as of the applicable computation date and on the line with the applicable employer account reserve percentage as set forth in the

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Experience Rate Table

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243 repealed.

SECTION 18. Paragraph (a) of Section 24 of said chapter 151A is hereby amended by striking

out in its entirety said paragraph and inserting in place thereof a new paragraph:

(a) Have been paid wages in the base period amounting to at least forty times the weekly benefit rate; provided, however, that for the period beginning on January first, nineteen hundred and ninety-five the individual has been paid wages in at least two quarters of the base period amounting to at least thirty times the weekly benefit rate; provided, further, that said amount shall be increased annually proportionately, rounding to the nearest one hundred dollars, to any increases which have occurred during the prior calendar year in the minimum wage as set forth in section one of chapter one hundred and fifty-one; and, provided further, that any such increase shall be effective beginning on the first Sunday in January.

SECTION 19. Section 30 of said chapter 151A is hereby amended by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the total benefits which an unemployed individual may receive during his benefit year shall be an amount equal to thirty-six percent of his wages in the base period, or an amount equal to thirty times his benefit rate, whichever is less, plus dependency benefits payable under section 29; provided, that if in any month the average state-wide unemployment rate for the prior 6 months, as determined by the United States Department of Labor, is equal to or below 5.1 percent, the total benefits which an unemployed individual who then files a claim may receive during his benefit year shall be an amount equal to 36 per cent of his wages in the base period or an amount equal to 26 times his benefit rate, whichever is less, plus dependency benefits payable under said section 29. If such amount includes a fractional part of a dollar, it shall be rounded to the next lower full dollar amount. SECTION 20. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, any agency that approves a state grant in excess of \$500,000 to a person or a public or private entity shall submit a detailed cost benefit analysis to the joint committee on state administration

and regulatory oversight no later than 30 days after authorization of said grant. The analysis shall contain: a detailed explanation of the process used for the selection of the grantee; the number of applications for the grant; an accounting of an expectation that the issuance of the grant will create or maintain existing jobs in the Commonwealth, if any; and an account of all grants received by the grantee during the present fiscal year from all other state agencies.

SECTION 21. The division of fisheries and wildlife shall have 180 days from the passage of this act to rescind or revise regulations pursuant to section 9 of chapter 131A. If after 180 days such regulations are not rescinded, 321 CMR 10.11-10.26 et seq., shall be considered rescinded.